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REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-4, 6-12, 18, 19, and 22 are currently being amended.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-22 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

In Section 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite to particular point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 10-12 and believes that claims 1 and 10-12, as amended, are not indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and therefore request that the Examiner withdraw the section 112 rejections.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

In Section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 8, 9, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Saitoh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,237,327).

With regard to independent claim 1, Saitoh et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest a display supported by the housing, wherein the user interface includes a text information entry area, wherein the text information entry area is activated in response to manipulation of the switch, the switch being a switch device located outside of the display. Saitoh et al. teaches a remote control device, not a handheld computer, in which a display may toggle on a plurality of

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different button formations on the display. However, Saitoh et al. does not provide any disclosure or teaching for a display in which at least a portion of the display is used as a text information area that is provided in response to a switch device located outside of the display. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, as amended, is not anticipated by Saitoh et al.

With regard to independent claim 8, Applicant respectfully submits that Saitoh et al. does not disclose, teach, or suggest the use of a means for receiving information at the touch pad and the display, the means for receiving and displaying a graphical user interface to prompt the user to input text information. As stated above, Saitoh et al. does not provide a means for entering text information, rather Saitoh et al. provides a user interface in which a plurality of buttons are provided to the user. Accordingly, Saitoh et al. does not disclose, teach, or suggest all the limitations recited in amended independent claim 8. Accordingly, independent claim 8 is not anticipated by Saitoh et al.

With regard to independent claim 18, Saitoh et al. does not disclose, teach, or suggest activating a user interface device to cause a suitable area for receiving handwritten characters to be displayed on the display above or behind the touch pad while the user interface device is being activated by the user and removing the suitable area from the display when the user interface device is deactivated. As stated above, Saitoh et al. does not provide an area for the input of handwritten characters on the display area. Further, Saitoh et al. does not disclose, teach, or suggest that the suitable area for providing input of handwritten characters is provided while the user interface device is being activated by the user and is removed when the user interface device is deactivated. Accordingly, independent claim 18, as amended, is not anticipated by Saitoh et al.

Claims Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

In Section 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2-7, 10-11, 12-17, and 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saitoh et al. in view of Lopresti et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,889,506).

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With regard to independent claim 1, neither Saitoh et al. nor Lopresti et al., alone, or in any proper combination, provide that a display supported by the housing, wherein the user interface includes a text information entry area, wherein the text information entry area is activated in response to manipulation of the switch, the switch being a switch device located outside of the display. The Examiner states that Lopresti et al. discloses a signature input area that reads on plain handwritten characters however, Applicant respectfully submits that the input signature area differs from the text information entry area. What is being input by the user in Lopresti et al. is simply a signature or any other pictorial identifier, the device in Lopresti et al. does not change the input from the user on the display to any sort of useable text. Applicant describes and claims a system in which a text information area is provided to the user upon toggling of a switch and the user inputs text information on the display screen through the use of a displayed keyboard, or through handwriting recognition. The device in Lopresti et al. simply tries to match a signature or other marking with a stored signature or marking, but does not convert any of the input information to actual useable text. Accordingly, what is taught by Lopresti et al. is not a text information entry area. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Saitoh et al. and Lopresti et al. does not disclose all of the limitations recited in independent claim 1.

Similarly, the combination of Saitoh et al. and Lopresti et al. does not disclose, teach, or suggest all of the claim limitations of independent claim 8 because as explained above, neither Saitoh et al. nor Lopresti et al. discloses, teaches, or suggests the use of an input text information area. Further, with regard to independent claim 18, the combination of Saitoh et al. and Lopresti et al. does not disclose, teach, or suggest the use of a user interface device to cause a suitable area for receiving handwritten characters to be displayed on the display above or behind the touch pad while the user interface device is being activated by the user. Neither the teachings of Saitoh et al. nor Lopresti et al. require that a user interface device is being activated while handwritten characters are being input by the user and then removing the suitable area from the display when the user interface device is deactivated. The idea behind such a user interface device is that a user may squeeze the switch while information is being entered via handwriting recognition on

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the handheld computer display screen and then releasing the switch when the user is done entering the information. Handheld computers often require the inputting of fairly short textual items and therefore it may be desirable to "pop-up" the text information area during a short period while the user is toggling on the user interface device and then removing the text information area from the display screen when the user interface device is deactivated or is no longer being pressed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 18, as amended, is not obvious over Saitoh et al. in view of Lopresti et al.

For the reasons provided above, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 8, and 18 are not obvious over Saitoh et al. in view of Lopresti et al. and therefore independent claims 1, 8, and 18 and their respective dependent claims are therefore allowable.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit

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Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

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